

Juab County Economic Events

Updated 9/15/03

Pulitzer Newspapers Inc. went on a buying spree in Utah, announcing Friday that it had purchased three weekly newspapers, a "shopper" newspaper and a real estate magazine. PNI said it had acquired The Springville Herald, with a paid circulation of 2,800; The Eureka Reporter, circulation 300; and The Pyramid, of Mount Pleasant, Sanpete County, circulation 2,200. The shopper is The Pyramid Shopper in Mount Pleasant, with a circulation of 7,500. *Deseret News*, 9/6/03

The Juab County Commissioners have accepted the recommendation of the Building Authority to progress the expansion of the Juab County Jail by approving two bids for financing and architectural planning. Commissioner Neil Cook made the motion to approve a bid from LJSH Planning Architectural Interiors for the design for the new jail addition to the public safety building in the amount of \$16,566. The motion was also made by Cook to approve the bid for financing this project by Far West Bank. The loan would be for \$250,000 over a term of 20 years, at a rate of 4.25 percent interest adjusted every five years based on the prime, with no origination fees or collateral required. The full payment amount would be \$354,903.08 with interest during that time period being \$104,903.08, principal being the original \$250,000. *The Times-News*, 8/6/03

The County Commission is trying to sell the old hospital building in Nephi, but so far has no takers. The building was supplanted by the new Central Utah Medical Center on the northwest side of town. Commissioner Neil Cook said he had contacted, among others, trade schools and colleges, but garnered no interest. *Salt Lake Tribune*, 7/27/03

State officials Monday unveiled the new Central Utah Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory in Nephi, which will be equipped to test for animal diseases ranging from West Nile virus to bovine spongiform encephalopathy, better known as mad cow disease. These and other diseases can affect human health. the Nephi facility replaces an existing branch lab in Provo. The state lost its lease on the Provo property and decided to place an upgraded version of the lab in Nephi. *Salt Lake Tribune*, 7/22/03

The Environmental Protection Agency is starting big-money, long-term cleanups at 10 Superfund toxic waste sites and putting 10 other sites aside for later, giving new weight to economic development potential in choosing sites. The Eureka Mills, in Eureka, Utah, will be provided \$7.2 million for cleanup. The agency said Wednesday that all preliminary work had been done to begin cleanups at the second-tier sites but that there wasn't enough money to get to them now. *Salt Lake Tribune*, 7/17/03

The federal government has designated the entire state of Utah a natural disaster area as a result of prolonged drought conditions, insect infestations and high winds. The designation makes farmers in all 29 counties eligible to be considered for low-interest

emergency loans from the Farm Service Agency. Utah is in its fifth year of drought, and the USDA's Palmer drought index ranked the state the nation's driest. What's being offered is low-interest loans and possible future assistance when it is made available by federal and state agencies. *Deseret News*, 7/2/03

Bacalla Holdings is interested in constructing a herb business building along 300 South Street in Mona. Council members directed the company to complete a concept plan for the business and then return to the council for further action. The company will construct their own water treatment facility. *The Times-News*, 6/25/03

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will send over \$218 million this year to local governments under the Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) Act. The BLM will distribute PILT funding to compensate almost 1,900 local governments in Fiscal Year 2003 because of the presence of Federal lands in those jurisdictions that are not subject to local taxes. In 2003 the PILT Payments for Utah is \$18,656,877. Juab County received \$614,917. *Gunnison Valley News*, 6/25/03

The Department of Transportation has awarded the City of Nephi a grant of \$1,894,019 for improvements to the airport. The funds will be used for phase I of a new runway and improve Fad design and safety standards on all aircraft operations. The improvements at Nephi Municipal Airport are needed to accommodate the ever-expanding mix of aircraft flown in and out of the area. *The Times-News*, 6/18/03

H.E. Davis won the bid for the Nephi Municipal Airport A.I.P. Project with the low bid of \$1,224,805. Four bidders submitted bids on the project with the high bid coming in at \$1,580,792.50, said Randy McKnight, city administrator. McKnight was asked to report on the project by Chad Brough, mayor. Money for the project is coming from the federal government in the form of a grant and will be awarded in three years to cover three phases of construction. *The Times-News*, 6/11/03

Nephi may qualify for some low-cost housing for needy families willing to invest sweat equity under the USDA Mutual Self-Help Housing Program. The program was presented at Nephi City Council by several Six County Association of Government employees. The USDA Rural Development provides grant funds to run the program and pay staff salaries to assist in recruiting and determining participant eligibility and by providing mortgage loans for the families. Loans are repaid at 1-percent interest. *The Times-News*, 4/30/03

More than 35,000 visitors flocked to the Little Sahara Sand Dunes for the Easter holiday this year. According to the Bureau of Land Management, this was one of the largest Easter weekends at the Sand Dunes. *The Times-News*, 4/23/03

The Utah Permanent Community Impact Board has awarded a \$100,000 grant to the Six County Association of Government to prepare preliminary engineering and environmental studies for the development of a 45-mile rail spur between Levan and Salina. *Salt Lake Tribune*, 4/7/03

Kuhni Sons, Inc. has already begun site construction in Juab County and plans to move the new facility within the next 18 months. The plant will be built approximately 19 miles south west of Nephi at Mills. The relocation will cost around \$6 million. *The Times-News*, 1/22/03

Senate Bill 35, the redevelopment of Superfund sites, has passed onto the full Senate. If passed into law, the bill would provide a helping hand in the mining cleanup underway in Eureka. *Deseret News*, 1/22/03

Mountain High Federal Credit Union intends to open a Eureka branch in January. The community has been without a bank since Wells Fargo closed its branch five months ago. *Salt Lake Tribune*, 01/07/03

Mona is taking bids to build a skate park at the new Mona City Park now under construction. *The Times-News*, 12/04/02

A conditional use permit has been issued for John Kuhni Son's Inc. by the Juab County Planning Commission for the establishment of a rendering/manufacturing facility on property located in Juab County near Mills, nine miles south of Levan. *The Times-News*, 12/04/02

Six subdivision projects in Nephi are currently underway. They include South Towne Estates, Lynnwood Subdivision, Hunter's Meadow subdivision, Sunrise Ranches, Red Cliff Estates, and an unnamed subdivision. *The Times-News*, 10/23/02

Rural Utah counties preparing budgets for next year may face cutbacks in federal PILT funds. Since 1977, the federal government has provided "payment in lieu of taxes" funds to counties with large tracts of nontaxable federal land. The federal budget for 2003 has yet to be approved, and President Bush wants to cut PILT money by 23.5 percent. Utah is fifth in the nation in PILT funding, behind California. In 2002, Utah received more than \$16 million. *Deseret News*, 10/15/02

Utah ranchers, hit hard by drought, will soon receive millions of dollars in immediate federal aid. The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced it would release \$752 million in cash to relieve drought-stricken livestock in 37 states. Utah is one of seven states that has declared a statewide drought disaster, and therefore, will qualify for a large share of the money. *Salt Lake Tribune*, 09/20/02

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has officially designated Eureka as a Superfund site, a designation that kicks in federal funds to clean up the elevated levels of lead and arsenic in the soil. It's expected to cost \$51 million and take up to three years depending on available federal funds. *Deseret News*, 9/05/02

The state Board of Business and Economic Development approved conditions for a legislative allocation of \$1.8 million to move the Kuhni rendering plant to Juab County. The company has requested a conditional-use permit to relocate to 300 acres located 2.5 miles south of Nephi. *Deseret News*, 8/17/02

Chief Consolidated Mining Co. of Eureka said Tuesday it has entered into an agreement with the Salt Lake City office of CB Richard Ellis to market about 4,500 acres of its prime developable real estate north of U.S. Highway 6 in and around Eureka. The real estate sale will provide Chief Consolidated with working capital to fund current operations. *Salt Lake Tribune*, 8/14/02

Eureka's last bank has closed leaving residents with no in-town bank. Wells Fargo Corp. recently closed the decades-old branch it inherited from First Security Corp. two years ago. *Salt Lake Tribune*, 7/30/02

The developers of Red Cliff Estates subdivision received conditional approval for a preliminary plat for a 15-lot subdivision in Nephi. *Nephi Times News*, 7/30/02

Plans are underway to construction a new \$70 million short-line railroad running from south of Salina to just west of Levan. Sevier, Sanpete and Juab counties are contemplating setting up a special service district to raise money for the project and spearhead its construction. A feasibility study has been completed and the project received some funding from Congress to help with environmental impact studies. The federal government's Surface Transportation Board, which has the final say on whether the line gets built, already issued its preliminary approval for the project contingent on completion of the environmental work. *Salt Lake Tribune*, 07/19/02

Dallas-based Panda Energy International Inc. last July announced plans for a gas-fired plant near Mona that could generate 1,100-megawatts. The company is moving along, albeit slowly as it investigates whether to actually build the plant. *Deseret News*, 7/9/02

Moroni Feed Company has officially opened a new loading and unloading facility between Nephi and Levan. This facility will handle grain shuttles from the Midwest. Company officials estimate they will save the company money in transportation costs. *Nephi Times News*, 7/3/02

The Kuhni rendering plan may be relocation two miles south of Nephi by the end of the year. The plant is currently located in Provo. The city and several neighboring businesses have kicked in \$3.6 million to help the plan move. However, a number of Juab County residents are fighting the relocation. *Deseret News*, 7/8/02